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AND THE OSCAR FOR BEST ODDITY GOES TO...

PLENTY OF HOLLYWOOD FILMS THAT HAD TROUBLE GETTING MADE ARE UP FOR ACADEMY AWARDS, INCLUDING DALLAS BUYERS CLUB PAGE 14

Turning the page on banned books

London library is celebrating the 30th anniversary of Freedom to Read Week PAGE 3

Final 2014 budget battle brewing

Council set to iron out proposed tax increases at Thursday bout PAGE 5

Lightning vet on fire heading into playoffs

Elvin Mims, who at 34 is the oldest on the team, is poised to take on Brampton PAGE 20

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

MMMMM ... CHOCOLATE!

Philippe Lehner and Mark Beacock of London's own Habitual Chocolate show a little enthusiasm for their product — the secret ingredient at Wednesday's Iron Chef competition at Fanshawe College. Chefs and students had to cook up delicious meals with one ingredient in common: Chocolate. Story on page 6.

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Security cameras got 'em: Coun.

Old East. Councillor cites two recent convictions as evidence surveillance cameras work

MIKE DONACHIE
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Security cameras are still the solution to Old East's problems, its local councillor says.

And Stephen Orser, who represents Ward 4, says he has proof that electronic eyes bring results.

This week, a $200 fine was slapped on a defendant at the London courthouse after the admitted dumping of garbage in Old East. It follows another successful result two weeks ago, when a different offender pleaded guilty and was fined $350.

Both criminal cases follow dumping problems in the parking lot between Dundas Street and Queens Avenue. It's that much-discussed area between Adelaide and Rectory that's the focus of complaints about anti-social behaviour, drugs and other crime.

And, each time, the offender was caught on camera. A public appeal was put out via news media and social media, and the people ditching their garbage in the city parking lot found themselves in court.

"The surveillance cameras that staff have put up are working," said Orser. "Two convictions are evidence of that.

"With that being said, the ongoing dumping problem is going to come to an end in wider streets.

"The free ride is over in Old East Village."

Orser's involved in the Old East Neighbourhood Safety Task Force, which has more than 50 members with connections to the area.

They're discussing ways to make lives better in the village and having a series of meetings during the first half of this year, with the aim of reporting back to city hall in June.

Among the task force's coming events is an open meeting from 9 a.m. to noon on April 12, at a location to be announced later on the city's website, london.ca. Any and all ideas are welcome, but Orser's especially keen on adding to the limited number of security cameras in place now.

He's raised the issue several times in council chambers and his request to buy cameras was snuffed out of the 2013 budget.

"The message is, if you're going to dump in Old East Village, you're going to get caught and you're going to get fined," Orser told council.

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2013

Just two items drew ire of city library patrons

In the last year, just two challenges were made to items on offer in libraries in London.

One person objected to sexual content and coarse language in the 2010 movie World's Greatest Dad, available in the library on DVD.

There was also an objection to the children's book Daddy's Roommate, by Michael Willhoite, because it depicted same-sex relationships as "perfectly normal, acceptable and even moral."

The person who complained said it did not belong in the children's department.

Both objections were declined after being considered by the people who select books for the library. Both items are still available.

Of course, this hasn't always been the case with regards to similar decisions.

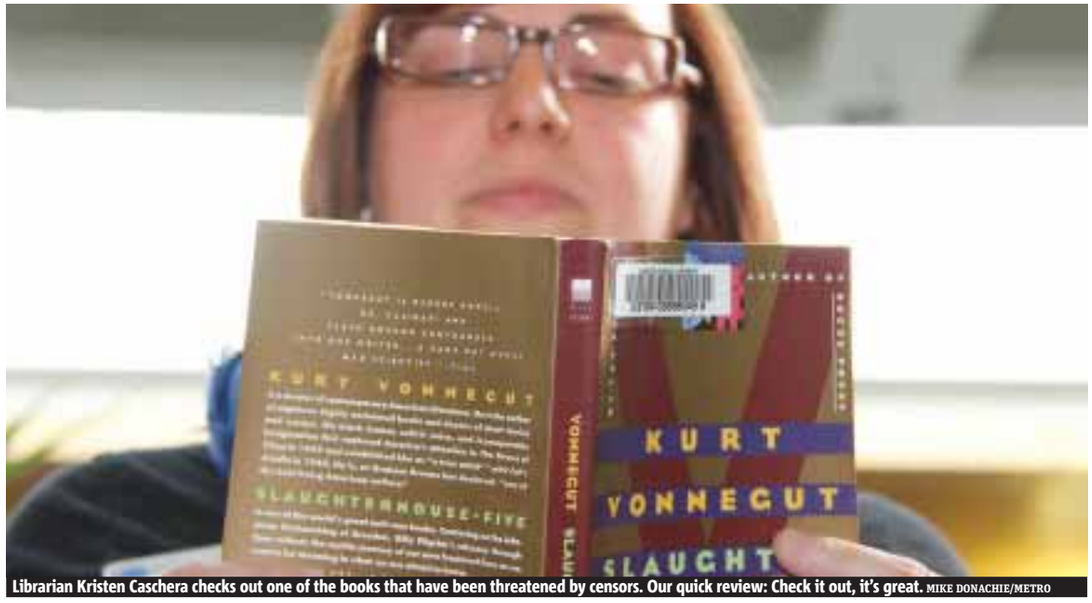
Freedom to Read Week displays include a variety of titles banned by authorities in different parts of the world.

They include Tintin in the Congo by Herge, which includes racial stereotypes, and Slaughterhouse Five, by Kurt Vonnegut.

There are also The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood and Fifty Shades of Grey by E. L. James.

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

For more news visit metronews.ca



Librarian Kristen Caschera checks out one of the books that have been threatened by censors. Our quick review: Check it out, it's great. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Dig around library for banned books

Freedom to Read.
Special event highlights censorship across the world

MIKE DONACHIE
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There are books under wraps throughout London Central Library and, like so many things there, they tell an important story.

It's the 30th year of Freedom to Read Week, and libraries are being asked to lead the debate about freedom of expression, censorship and the modern world.

"It's a week to celebrate our freedom to read and to consider censorship and challenges to different books," said librarian Kristen Caschera. "We have to remember that we're lucky to be in a place where we can still read what we want."

Walk around the library this week and you'll see books hidden under paper bags that say "banned." Each was taken off shelves somewhere in the world.

Even now, London's library has a procedure where people can object to publications on offer. They have to explain their reasons and the request is considered. Such requests are rare, and rarely successful.

Asked what is challenged in libraries across the world, Caschera says: "Anything."

Common challenges are based on religious grounds — for example, The Last Temptation of Christ is a DVD that many people don't like — or the use of racist terms, like in The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.

Often, it's about the age of the audience. Many challenges are within school systems, with objectors claiming that language or other content, like depictions of same-sex relationships, are inappropriate for kids.

"Censorship is nowhere near as large an issue in this country as it is in other places," Caschera said. "But I think people would be surprised at the number of things that are challenged every year in schools and libraries."

Quoted

"People would be surprised at the number of things that are challenged every year in schools and libraries."
Kristen Caschera, London librarian

5 things we didn't know about London's proposed concert hall

The answers keep coming from the people behind London's proposed performance venue development, being led by Music London and The Grand Theatre. Here are five revelations project leaders made to Metro:

MIKE DONACHIE/METRO
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1 Giving the city a say

METRO FILE

David Canton, chair of Music London, wants the city on board by offering seats on its board.

"If city council wishes to nominate individuals to serve, that would be welcomed," he said.

The old PACT (Performing Arts Centre of Tomorrow) group is taking on new members and having its name changed to Music London.

The plan is it will own the proposed new Celebration Centre.

2 Picking up the tab for losses

Canton has insisted any deficits, in running costs or in the capital project, won't eat public money.

"If there were to be any losses, they would be the responsibility of the Music London board of directors," he said, but insisted he's confident the concert hall will be popular and successful.

And he added: "Capital cost overruns will be the responsibility of the project manager, EllisDon."

SHUTTERSTOCK

3 Channeling any surplus

If it runs at a surplus — which The Grand Theatre already does — that money will help the community, Canton said.

The $164-million project is already huge, but there will also be a separate, $5-million endowment fund set up by Music London. Any operating surplus will be added to the fund.

Canton said it will "support emerging artists" and promote affordable access to the new venue for community groups and amateur performers.

GETTY IMAGES

4 The Grand's tower might still happen

METRO FILE

Orchestra London and The Grand Theatre had competing projects before they joined forces. There are now plans for two condo towers near the Celebration Centre.

The Grand's old project included a tower of residential units near its current site, and it's still a possibility, said Canton.

"The residential expansion is still under consideration pending acquisition of the properties on Richmond Street," he said.

5 Planning for twice as many events

These days, London's missing out on events because Centennial Hall is "substandard" and the city doesn't have a venue that's the right size, said Canton.

Having a new hall will change that, Music London believes.

"The number of performances will at least double in the Celebration Centre main stage to over 200 events per year," he said. "This is similar to Guelph and Thunder Bay and many others."

METRO FILE

Two London-area athletes to compete in Paralympics

Two London-area athletes will be part of the Canadian team at the Sochi 2014 Paralympic Winter Games from March 7-16.

Tyler McGregor, 20, born in London but living in Forest, Ont., will compete on the sledge hockey team and Mark Ideson, 37, of London and born in Parry Sound, Ont., will be in the wheelchair curling competition.

Canada will bring a total of 54 athletes to compete in all sports contested at the Sochi Paralympics: Sledge hockey, wheelchair curling, para-alpine skiing, para-snowboard, para-Nordic skiing and biathlon.

McGregor competed originally on the standing amputee team but switched to sledge hockey in 2011. He made his national team debut at the 2012 world sledge hockey challenge in Calgary, helping Canada to a silver medal in the tournament.

He was the youngest member of Canada's gold medal-winning team at the 2013 world championships.

Ideson will also be competing in his first Paralympics Winter Games in Sochi after only taking up the sport in 2010. It will, however, be his second trip to Sochi after he was a member of the championship team at the world wheelchair curling championships in Sochi in 2013.

He also was first at the Ontario championships in 2012 and third at the national championships in 2012.

The Paralympic team is led by chef de mission Ozzie Sawicki of Cochrane, Alta.

"I know that our entire Canadian contingent is ready to take on the challenge to once again place in the top three nations in the gold-medal count, as we did in Vancouver at our home Games in 2010," he said as the team was announced Wednesday. DAVE LANGFORD/METRO

Council gets ready for final bout in 2014 budget battle

More cuts.
There's still work to be done on proposed taxes increase

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It's been a bitter battle over the 2014 budget, and it's not over yet.

Council comes together Thursday night for the final round of the budget bout. Last time out, on Tuesday, the debate continued until everybody was punch-drunk at 1 a.m.

It ended with a proposed tax hike of 3.2 per cent. And that's why it's a problem.

In an election year, following years with tax increases of 0, 0 and 1.2 per cent, the idea of facing voters after raising their taxes by more than three per cent is unthinkable for some London politicians.

"If it comes in at three per cent I'm not going to support the budget," said Coun. Bud Polhill on Wednesday. "I'm going to vote against the whole thing."

And he's not the only one who wants to see the numbers come down.

Notably, Coun. Nancy Branscombe has been pushing for less spending, and of course Mayor Joe Fontana is the leading proponent of a low rise or no rise.

But Fontana's determination to build a fund for economic development has proved one of the big factors in council's inability to reduce the tax rise. It's actually higher now than the initial proposal by staff, way back in November, of 3.1 per cent.

So it's back in the ring for one last night of swinging punches Thursday. And the cuts could well keep coming.

"I think there's a couple of spots where there are some things we can move around," Polhill added.

Proposed tax increase

- **3.2 per cent:** Where the 2014 property tax increase sat after Tuesday's meeting.
- **$76:** Extra money people owning a $208,000 home would pay in taxes for 2014.

Mayor Joe Fontana makes a point to Chief Brad Duncan of London police during the budget debate on Tuesday night. The police had asked for a 3.3 per cent increase in their budget but had to settle for 2.9 per cent. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Tackling the Boston Marathon for a good cause

The London Health Sciences Centre's 42K four, from left, Dr. David Palma, Richard McClelland, Dr. Joseph Chin and Dr. Kevin Fung. CONTRIBUTED

The Boston Marathon is a little less than two months away. Break that into weeks or training runs left until April 21 and, well, the pressure's on.

It's the sort of pressure four runners from the London Health Sciences Centre know well.

Two of the men — co-workers at the London Regional Cancer Program — have tackled Boston's 42 kilometres before. Now, they're ready to face the challenge again, along with two first-time runners, taking each step with hope of improving cancer care.

They'll be running under the banner of 42K for Cancer, a fundraising group started in 2007 with the goal of raising at least $42,000 — $1,000 per kilometre — to support cancer research.

After a first round of success, a 42K team headed to Boston in 2009 and 2011, raising $243,000 over the three years.

This time around, they've upped the ante — looking to bring in $100,000 after a two-year break. They're sitting at about 35 per cent of the goal.

Dr. Joseph Chin, chief of surgical oncology at London Health Sciences Centre, was part of the inaugural team formed in 2007. Each time he's gone to Boston, he's dedicated his effort to raising money for prostate cancer research.

He'll keep at that pace this time around.

"My previous efforts have resulted in tangible differences in prostate cancer care for our patients, with proceeds from the previous runs supporting two clinical trials and a couple of pieces of equipment used in our prostate cancer research lab," he said. "I'm hoping Boston 2014 will be equally successful and meaningful."

Other members of this year's 42K for Cancer team are Dr. David Palma, Dr. Kevin Fung and Richard McClelland.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

How to help

- A dinner and silent auction is planned for March 31 at Aroma Restaurant to raise money for 42k for Cancer.
- Tickets can be ordered at lhsf.ca/42kdinner.
- More information about the runners and their individual fundraising efforts is available at lhsf.ca.

Marijuana

Police arrest trio after drug raids

Three people are facing charges after police seized more than $100,000 worth of marijuana and cash.

The London Police Service's guns and drugs unit, which includes members of the RCMP, searched houses on Second Street, Langton Road and Commissioners Road East on Tuesday.

They found a combined 18.8 pounds of marijuana, valued at $85,130 and $15,735 in cash.

Matt Brezden, 22, Carleigh Mulligan, 20, and 20-year-old Jacob Phillips, all of London, have been charged with possession of a controlled substance for the purpose of trafficking.

The charges come on the heels of the unit's Friday seizure of 2.9 kilograms of cocaine and 6 kilograms of marijuana from two homes on opposite ends of the city, Tanner Drive and Proudfoot Lane.

That cocaine seizure marked a record for the street drug unit, officials said, and led to charges against a 16-year-old, who can't be identified, and Mustafa Hassan, 23. METRO

Multiple charges

Man arrested after stealing car, leading police on chase

A London man is facing multiple charges after police say he stole a car then led officers on a chase.

Timothy Hammer, 31, was arrested Tuesday after the OPP were called to Parkhill at about 1:45 p.m. on a stolen vehicle report. The car had been left running, police said.

An officer responding to the call noticed the suspect vehicle and tried to stop it. The driver was taken into custody after a short car chase.

Charges against Hammer include motor vehicle theft under $5,000 and driving without a licence. METRO

Medway High School

Man charged in assault on student

A London man will be in court April 8 for allegations he attacked a Medway High School student on Monday morning. Police say Robert Booker, 19, of London, went to the Middlesex Centre school about 8 a.m. and assaulted a 17-year-old. METRO

Environment. Ontario gearing up to fight back against critter invasion

Ontario is set to become the first jurisdiction in Canada to pass a standalone invasive species act.

The act, introduced Wednesday, will provide the framework for dealing with the kind of threat currently posed by Asian carp.

Ontario is already contending with the zebra mussel invasion of several years ago, as well longhorn beetles, the ash borer beetle and the round goby, a bottom-dwelling fish that can now be found in all five Great Lakes.

"Invasive species pose a threat to our economy and our environment costing the Ontario economy tens of millions of dollars each year," Natural Resources Minister David Orazietti said. "The potential cost is millions more."

Being home to the Great Lakes, Ontario is particularly at risk for invasive species. In fact, more of these species have become established in Ontario than any other Canadian jurisdiction, he said.

The proposed legislation would give Ontario the tools to ban activities, such as possessing and transporting certain invasive species, and would allow the province to intervene earlier, including working with government partners to stop an invasive species from spreading.

It would also ensure compliance through modernized inspection and enforcement measures.

"Currently Ontario relies on a patchwork of more than 20 federal and provincial acts," Orazietti said. "None of them were designed specifically to deal with invasive species or their impact on our economy and natural environment."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

This silver carp is a variety of the Asian carp, an invasive species. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Growth. London GDP to be stronger in 2014, but still below national average

It's not horrible news, but it's not great news either.

A recovery in manufacturing will lead to stronger London-area GDP gains in 2014, compared to past years. But growth — expected to reach two per cent — will still sit below the national average, says a new report from the Conference Board of Canada.

The annual analysis of 28 urban areas across Canada lumps London, St. Catharines-Niagara and Kingston together as spots where "economic activity has been disappointing."

London is, however, expected to fare just a touch better this year than St. Catharines-Niagara and Kingston, where GDP growth will reach 1.9 per cent and 1.8 per cent, respectively, the report says.

Kitchener-Cambridge-Waterloo is expected to perform the best in Ontario, with its economy growing 2.9 per cent, a boost Conference Board economist Alan Arcand attributes partially to work on a light-rail system.

The big winners in 2014 will be Calgary, Regina, Edmonton, and Saskatoon, where growth will lead the rest of the nation but will moderate.

Calgary is on track to see a 3.7 per cent economic jump, the fastest among the areas included in the report.

"Most cities in central and eastern Canada will see their economic fortunes improve this year," Arcand said. "The growing strength in the U.S. economy and a slightly weaker dollar will help to stimulate exporting activity and in turn bolster economic growth."

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

On the grow

2%

The expected London-area GDP growth in 2014.

SOURCE: CONFERENCE BOARD OF CANADA

Chef Robert Stewart, of Petit Paris Creperie and Patisserie, and second-year culinary student Shauna Stewart confer on their menu at the start of Wednesday's Iron Chef contest. MIKE DONACHIE/METRO

Fanshawe Iron Chefs get a test of chocolate

Allez cuisine! Students and mentors get sweet, 'earthy' surprise at local culinary competition

MIKE DONACHIE
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Students and chefs were being called upon to test their mettle again Wednesday at Fanshawe College's Iron Chef competition.

And they were in for a treat as they arrived at Saffron's Restaurant on campus.

Their secret ingredient, to be included in all dishes, was revealed as chocolate from Nicaragua.

"It's very, very earthy," said Mark Beacock of Habitual Chocolate, the local suppliers of the special ingredient. "It has lovely tasting notes."

And, with samples on offer for everyone, it was hard to argue.

Soon after arriving, the students and their mentors from local restaurants got down to preparing chocolatey menus for the contest.

"We're connecting chefs from our local community with students from our culinary programs," said Tracy Jones, program co-ordinator for the cook apprentices.

It gives them the opportunity to learn from the professionals, she explained, in planning and preparing menus.

The students and their mentors had to present a soup or salad, appetizers and an entree, each time providing enough for four portions, and each time using the secret ingredient.

They also had basic pantry items like spices and sauces available.

Bang a gong, they are on!

"This gives them the opportunity to plan a menu, produce it and present it."

Tracy Jones, program co-ordinator for the cook apprentices

More doctors going all in the family

A plan launched in 2003 by Ontario medical schools and the government is making a dent in the province's family-doctor shortage, leaders say.

Six participating schools have graduated an additional 1,900 family doctors in the past decade, and the number of family-medicine residents has more than doubled.

"The transformation of primary care has been dramatic and, as a result, many more Ontario patients have access to the care they need," said Bonnie Patterson, president and CEO of the Council of Ontario Universities, which represents the province's 21 publicly funded universities.

Family-medicine programs are graduating more than 500 doctors each year, up from 200 a year in 2003.

More medical students are choosing a career in family medicine because of investments and new partnerships mean more than 155 communities across Ontario have recruited new graduates, according to a report released Wednesday. METRO

2003

680

Number of family-medicine doctors in London area in 2003.

2012

783

Number of family-medicine doctors in London area in 2012.

SOURCE: ONTARIO PHYSICIAN HUMAN RESOURCES DATA CENTRE

Loretta Saunders. Halifax woman's disappearance a homicide after body found

The disappearance of university student Loretta Saunders is being treated as a homicide by police in Halifax, ending the hope her family had expressed that she would be found safe after vanishing two weeks ago.

Halifax police say Saunders' body was found at about 4:30 p.m. Wednesday in the median off Route 2 of the Trans-Canada Highway, west of Salisbury, N.B., about a three-hour drive from Halifax.

Police say they have identified suspects in the homicide and charges are anticipated in the case.

Saunders, 26, a student at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, was last seen on the morning of Feb. 13 in the Cowie Hill Road area of the city.

Two people have been charged with stealing her 2000 Toyota Celica, which was found in Harrow, near Windsor, Ont., last week.

Ontario Provincial Police arrested Blake Leggette, 25, and Victoria Henneberry, 28, and they were returned to Halifax to face auto theft charges.

Halifax police are now treating the disappearance of 26-year-old Loretta Saunders as a homicide. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HANDOUT

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Arizona. Governor vetoes controversial bill allowing refusal of service to gays

Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer has vetoed a bill that set off a national debate over gay rights, religion and discrimination.

She announced the veto Wednesday after holding private meetings with opponents and proponents.

The bill backed by Republicans in the state legislature was designed to give added protection from lawsuits to people who assert their religious beliefs in refusing service to gays.

Opponents called it an open attack on gays that invited discrimination.

The bill thrust Arizona into the national spotlight last week after both chambers of the legislature approved it.

The state faced blistering criticism from major corporations and political leaders from both major parties.

The bill allowed any business, church or person to cite the law as a defence in any action brought by the government or individual claiming discrimination. Supporters call the bill a slight tweak to the state's existing religious freedom law. Arizona does not extend civil-rights protections to people based on sexual orientation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lac-Mégantic

Mayor to railway: we want tracks out

A Quebec town still recovering from a train disaster says it sent a message to the railroad's potential new owner: We want the tracks out of our town.

A Lac-Mégantic official says the mayor delivered the message at a meeting with a representative for Fortress Investment Group, the winning bidder for the Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Free from partisanship

Liberal senators push transparency, approachability

Liberal using their new-found independence will solicit questions from Canadians that they will then pose to the government during the daily question period. The move is one of five ways the 32 Liberal senators hope to take advantage of their new freedom from partisan ties.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Justin Bieber exchanges swagger for stagger in latest video

In this Jan. 23, 2014, video frame grab released by the Miami Beach Police Department, singer Justin Bieber, centre, is shown walking unsteadily during a sobriety test at a police station in Miami Beach, Fla. The Miami-Dade county prosecutors released about 10 hours of video Wednesday. Bieber pleaded not guilty to driving under the influence, resisting arrest and driving with an invalid licence. MIAMI BEACH POLICE DEPT./THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Omar Khadr a minimal threat, says ombudsman

Classification. Prison authorities urged to take into account evidence that Canadian former Guantanamo detainee has no more terrorist ties

Quoted

"This is a government that has no compassion even for the most vulnerable in our society. It is spiteful and wishes to run out the clock on Omar by keeping him in prison for as long as they can."

Dennis Edney, one of Khadr's Canadian lawyers, who called it "disgraceful" that authorities have ignored the federal prisons ombudsman's repeated recommendations.

Canadian correctional authorities have unfairly classified former Guantanamo detainee Omar Khadr even though they lowered his risk rating from maximum to medium security, the federal prisons ombudsman complains.

In a letter obtained by The Canadian Press, the Office of the Correctional Investigator urges prison authorities to take into account evidence that Khadr poses minimal threat and should be classified as such.

"(Correctional Service of Canada) officials also note that there is no evidence Mr. Khadr has maintained an association with any terrorist organization," the letter to CSC's senior deputy commissioner states.

The letter this month by Ivan Zinger, executive director of the independent Office of the Correctional Investigator, is the office's third such complaint since Khadr returned to Canada in 2012 to serve out the rest of an eight-year sentence for war crimes.

Corrections recently reclassified Khadr, 27, and transferred him from the maximum-security Edmonton Institution to the medium-security Bowden Institution in Innisfail, Alta.

But the ombudsman argues that doesn't go far enough, given that Khadr pleaded guilty in October 2010 to crimes he committed in Afghanistan as a 15-year-old. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Larger-than-life Rob Ford cuts a wide swath through meeting of mayors

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford blew into Ottawa Wednesday with his trademark bull-in-a-china-shop style, wowing crowds, scrumming with reporters and knocking a scheduled meeting of the Big City Mayors' Caucus off its moorings.

"I got along well with all the mayors, I didn't think I was a distraction," Ford told his second scrum of the morning at the first Federation of Canadian Municipalities meeting he has ever attended.

Ford said he told the other mayors to back a federal party.

"So I said … in the next federal election, take a stand. Either you're going to support (Tom) Mulcair and the NDP or you're going to vote (Justin) Trudeau and the Liberals or you're going to vote for the new leader of the Bloc," Ford told reporters. "But don't sit there and complain if you're not going to take a stand."

The reaction ranged from good humour to anger.

"I don't want to be associated in any form to this man," said Quebec City Mayor Régis Labeaume. "How could I explain to my people in Quebec City and to my children that I work, collaborate, with a guy who, during his mandate, smoked crack, you know?"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ukraine's protest leaders pick top lawmaker for PM

Coffers to fill. The new leader will be walking into a country rife with financial problems

Leaders of Ukraine's protest movement on Wednesday proposed a top legislator as the country's next prime minister, while Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered major military exercises just across the border in a show of force and apparent displeasure over the country's new direction.

The new government, which is expected to be formally approved by parliament Thursday, will face the hugely complicated task of restoring stability in a country that is deeply divided politically and on the verge of financial collapse. The country's pro-Russian president, Viktor Yanukovych, fled the capital over the weekend.

At Kyiv's Independence Square, the heart of the protest movement against Yanukovych, the interim leaders who seized control after he fled proposed Arseniy Yatsenyuk as the country's new prime minister.

Yatsenyuk, 39, is a millionaire former banker who served as economy minister, foreign minister and parliamentary speaker before Yanukovych took office in 2010. Widely viewed as a technocratic reformer, he appears to enjoy the support of the U.S.

The top U.S. diplomat for Europe, Victoria Nuland, was overheard discussing Yatsenyuk and other Ukrainian opposition figures in a bugged phone call that was leaked, saying "I think Yats is the guy who's got the economic experience, the governing experience."

If confirmed, one of the first jobs for Yatsenyuk and other members of his new Cabinet will be seeking outside financial help from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund. Economists say Ukraine is close to financial collapse, with its currency under pressure and its treasury almost empty. The acting finance minister has said Ukraine will need $35 billion in bailout loans to get through the next two years.

Any such deal will require a new prime minister to take unpopular steps, such as raising the price of gas to consumers. The state gas company charges as little as one fifth of what it pays for imported Russian gas. The IMF unsuccessfully pressed Ukraine to halt the practice under two earlier bailouts, and halted aid when Kyiv wouldn't comply. A bailout may come with the condition that Ukraine lets its currency fall against the dollar and the euro, which would painfully increase the cost of imported goods.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Palestinians pray over Sami Bsharat's body

Palestinians pray during the funeral of Sami Bsharat, a Palestinian militant who was killed in operation by the Israeli army in 2003, in Tamoun village near Jenin city in the West Bank on Wednesday. Recently Israel has been returning the bodies of dead Palestinian militants to their families for burial.

NASSER ISHTAYEH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man guilty of slaying soldier sentenced to life in prison

An al-Qaida-inspired extremist was sentenced to life without parole Wednesday for hacking a British soldier to death on a London street in front of horrified passersby.

Images of Michael Adebolajo, 29, holding a butcher knife and cleaver with bloodied hands in the moments after the May 22 killing of Lee Rigby shocked people around the world and sparked fears of Islamist terrorism in Britain.

The self-described "soldier of Allah" was sentenced at Central Criminal Court along with his accomplice, 22-year-old Michael Adebowale, who received a minimum 45-year sentence.

The day ended in drama when both men were pinned to the ground and led out of the courtroom after scuffling with guards and shouting "Allah Akbar" — "God is great" — at the judge moments before their sentences were read out. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michael Adebolajo
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michael Adebowale
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syria. Army troops kill dozens of rebels in deadly attack near Damascus

Syrian army troops on Wednesday killed 175 rebels, many of them al-Qaida-linked fighters, in an ambush described as one of the deadliest attacks by government forces against fighters near Damascus, according to state media.

An opposition group said the dawn ambush — part of a government effort to secure the capital — was carried out by the Lebanese Hezbollah group, which has been instrumental in helping President Bashar Assad's regime push back rebels entrenched in the suburbs of the capital city.

Syrian state news agency SANA quoted a field commander in the eastern Ghouta area as saying most of the rebels killed in the assault belonged to the al-Qaida-linked Nusra Front rebel group. The report said several of those killed were foreign fighters who came to Syria from Saudi Arabia, Chechnya and Qatar.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Withdrawal of troops

U.S. general sees grim future for Afghanistan

Depicting a grim future for Afghanistan without U.S. help, the top U.S. military officer said Wednesday that Afghanistan's refusal to sign a security agreement with the United States may make the fight more difficult this year, embolden the enemy and prompt some Afghan security forces to co-operate with the Taliban to "hedge their bets." Army Gen. Martin Dempsey spent the day in Afghanistan working to manage the aftereffects of President Barack Obama's order Tuesday to begin actively planning for a total withdrawal of U.S. troops by the end of the year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In absentia

Egyptian court convicts terrorists

An Egyptian court convicted 26 people Wednesday of forming a terrorist group to launch an attack on the country's vital Suez Canal waterway, with almost all receiving death sentences in absentia.

The verdict by the Cairo Criminal Court came after judges held only one session in the case. One of the defendants, younger than 18, did not receive a death sentence, a statement announcing the verdict said.

Courts in Egypt routinely convict defendants and give the maximum sentence to those tried in absentia. However, once caught, the defendants receive an automatic retrial. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Airstrike

Israel targets Hezbollah

Israel has opened a new front in its attempts to halt weapons smuggling to Hezbollah, striking one of the group's positions inside Lebanon for the first time since the sides fought a war eight years ago.

This week's airstrike is part of a risky policy that could easily backfire by triggering retaliation. But at a time when the Syrian opposition says Hezbollah has struck a major blow for President Bashar Assad's government in neighbouring Syria by ambushing al-Qaida-linked fighters there, it shows the strategic importance for Israel of trying to break the Syria-Hezbollah axis.

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Are you afraid of the dark oilsands?

Keystone. U.S. senators trot out scary tales from Alberta in bid to get Obama to reject contentious pipeline

Horror stories about the Alberta oilsands' impact on human health are being shared in Washington, D.C.

A pair of anti-Keystone XL senators invited witnesses Wednesday to provide anecdotes about the effect on people near sites where the oil is extracted, transported and refined.

They hope these human-interest stories might influence the Obama administration as it prepares its final decision on the Keystone XL pipeline.

One of the speakers at the event was John O'Connor, an Alberta doctor.

He first went public in 2006 with concerns about what he considered to be elevated cancer rates around Fort Chipewyan, Alta.

Many of the 1,200 residents believe their proximity to oilsands development and major forestry mills in Fort McMurray have led to contamination of water and wildlife and a higher rate of cancer and other illnesses.

The event organizer said she would send a letter to her longtime colleague in the Senate Democratic caucus, current Secretary of State John Kerry, asking him to consider human health as he prepares a recommendation to U.S. President Barack Obama.

"I have shown you, or at least I have told you, how health miseries follow the tar sands," said Barbara Boxer, the chair of the Senate environment committee, at a news conference.

Boxer said the health aspect has been overlooked in the discussion and was disappointingly absent in the State Department's recent environmental report, which predicted no significant effect on carbon pollution whether or not the pipeline is built.

It's far from certain her appeals will sway the issue at this point. The president has apparently told state governors, at a closed-door meeting this week, that he plans to make a final decision on Keystone within a couple of months.

When asked what leverage she had at her disposal to influence the administration, Boxer replied that her leverage was "the truth."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Anecdotal evidence

"Health miseries follow tar sands from extraction, to transport, to refining, to waste disposal."

Barbara Boxer, chair of the Senate environment committee

Home sweet (tiny) home

In January, Betty Ybarra stands outside a tiny house she and her boyfriend live in, in Madison, Wis. While tiny houses have been attractive for those wanting to downsize or simplify their lives for financial or environmental reasons, there's another population benefiting from the small-dwelling movement: the homeless. There's a growing effort across the U.S. from advocates and religious groups to build these compact buildings because they are cheaper than a traditional large-scale shelter, help the recipients socially because they are built in communal settings and are environmentally friendly due to their size. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Expected more?

Target Canada loses almost $1B since March open

Canada's lukewarm reception to Target's first expansion outside the U.S. contributed to a nearly $1-billion loss for the discount retailer. Target reported its Canadian segment had a $329-million US loss before interest and tax items in the fourth quarter ended Feb. 1.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

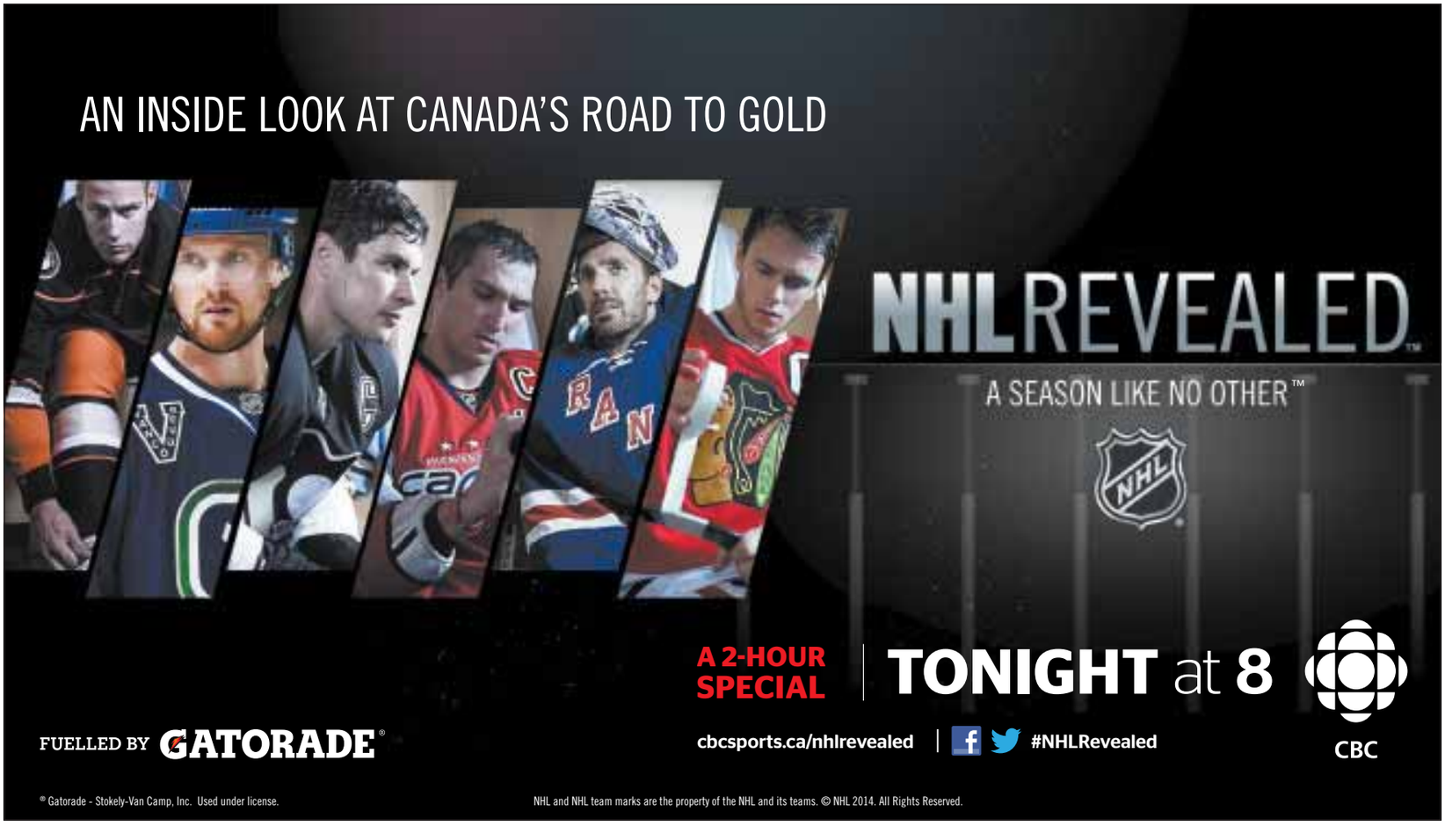
DOLLAR 89.86¢ (-0.34¢)

TSX 14,188.58 (-0.40)

OIL $102.59 US (+$0.76)

GOLD $1,328 US (-$14.70)

Natural gas: $4.53 US (-$0.13)
Dow Jones: 16,198.41 (+ 18.75)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HOW TO SCORE A DATE

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

There was a time when online dating was an embarrassing ordeal, but now it's so commonplace that you'd be an idiot not to have an online profile.

Sure, you might have a loving spouse and a beautiful child, but you haven't truly lived until you've experienced the thrill of a suitor who eyes your 1,500-word profile, feels a moment of inspiration and writes, "Hey."

I spent so many years on dating sites that it might be the Stockholm Syndrome talking, but I really came to enjoy the myriad of ways people misspelled even the simplest English words. "Beautyfull girl with nothing too loose lokking for someone spatial!"

With enough hours online to merit a Malcolm Gladwell reference, a friend of mine recently asked me to offer advice about her profile. I was honoured. In reply, I've written this can't-miss list of online dating tips that will have her — and your — inbox filled with so many yo's and sup's that the NSA won't have the resources to keep up.

Love Bytes: A Guide To 'Electronic Dating'

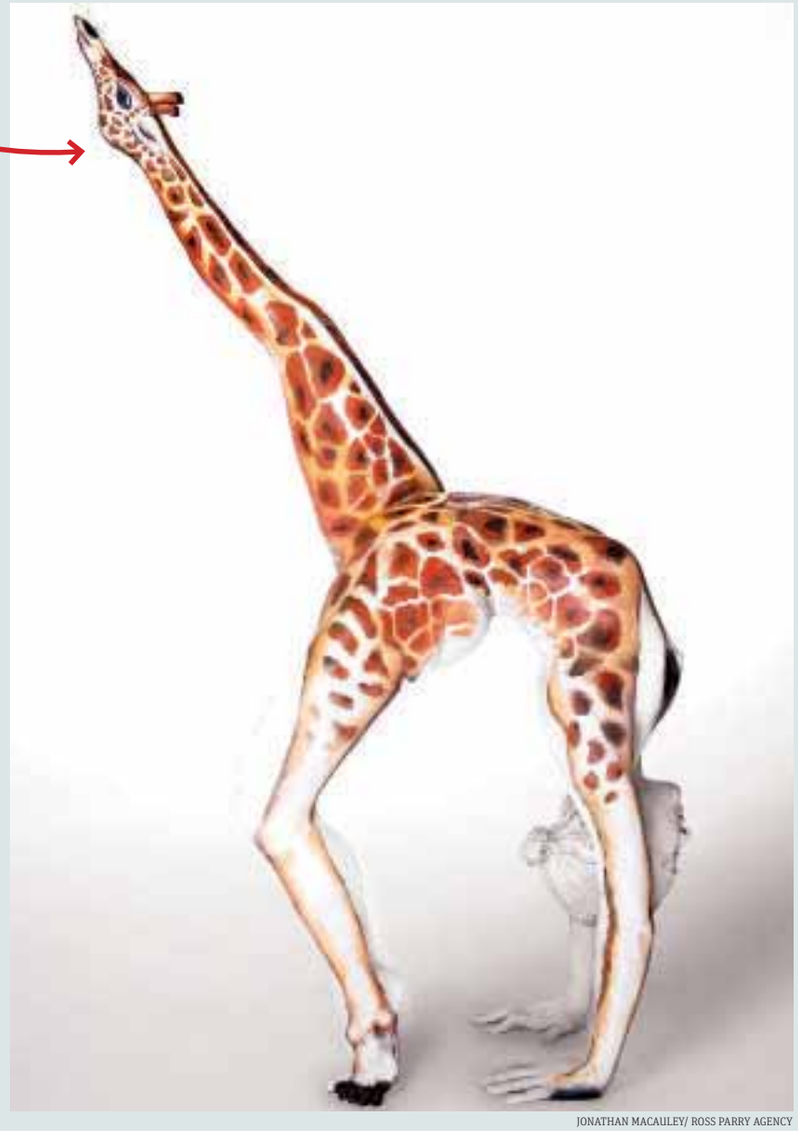
- Your profile name, or handle, should include your full name and address to speed things along.
- Next comes the tagline. Reel in potential suitors with so-called "clickbait" headlines, like "You Won't Believe What Happened To The Last Guy I Dated."
- Never lie, unless you're older or heavier than you want to say you are, in which case go to town.
- Ask a compelling question to prompt more meaningful messages. "If God loves us why must people suffer?" and "Are gravitons fundamental in string theory?" are both great conversation starters.
- Be specific. Wrong: I'm quirky and fun. Right: I am the mayor of Toronto.
- Be sure to list all the things you DON'T want, especially freaks, flakes and game-players, in angry detail. Ranting about previous partners with absolutely no prompting lets people know you mean business. It's no different than when you apply for a new job and your cover letter says, "I'm a good worker, so you'd better not be a lame company or I walk."
- Be sure to pepper the profile with LOLs. Besides their inherent aura of intelligence and charm, the mental image of you laughing at each sentence you write as you sit alone with your laptop is irresistible.
- Taking a selfie in your bathroom mirror shows off your body and your bathroom, which is an efficient way to convey two important pieces of information.
- Big group shots with friends are great, because it shows there is a Plan B, C and D.

And that's my advice. I hope you found it helpful. One last word if you're an older person who is still afraid of technology: Learn to embrace computers and smartphones for your dating needs. Otherwise, you'll be dating yourself.

ZOOM

Artist bends body into an animal

At first glance it looks like a giraffe, but a closer inspection reveals the body of a gymnast contorting herself into the shape of the exotic animal. Beth Sykes, 20, from Featherstone, Yorkshire, in north England, says it was a "spur of the moment" decision to transform her body into that of the long-necked creature. METRO



JONATHAN MACAULEY/ ROSS PARRY AGENCY

The gymnast

"We just thought one day that it would be cool to paint me as a giraffe. Then finally we had some time and decided to do it. It took six hours of painting but it was worth it."

Contortionist Beth Sykes
Sykes teamed up with her friend and body art painter Emma Fay to produce her giraffe-like look.

All paint, apart from the ears

Fay the artist painted the head of the giraffe on one of Sykes' feet, and hooves on the other foot and one hand.

"The only bit that wasn't my body was the giraffe's ears — we made them out of a foam yoga mat," added Sykes.

METRO

Clickbait

DYLAN ROBERTSON
Metro Online

Worried about how loud sounds affect your health? Perhaps you're curious how noisy your neighbours really are. Your smartphone can be used as a decibel meter thanks to these free apps.

CONTRIBUTED

Decibel 10th:
This app includes a graph similar to a heart-rate monitor. It also tells you what your current sound environment is comparable to, like a hushed conversation or a plane taking off. A similar Android app is Sound Meter.

Decibels:
A camera comes with this app, allowing you to capture a photo along with the volume level at the time.

Decibel Ultra:
The two meters in this app measure both ambient sound and incoming noises. A number of sophisticated features allow you to calibrate the app's precision.

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Zuckerberg wants to give the whole world free Internet access hoping they will invest. Is it a good idea?

@auditorydamage: I'm sure this totally won't end up concentrating even more power in FB, which totally won't be abused at all.

@Canucklehead_ca: Good idea? No. GREATEST IDEA! If you're unable to look at cat pictures & argue with strangers, well ... that ain't living.

@ctmwyn: reducing the technology barrier can't be bad, unless users are forced to sell their personal information before given access.

@cableknitdragon: No because the last thing the internet needs is more facebook.

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SCENE 2

Visual jaunts inspire duo

Phantogram. Psych pop band hits London Music Hall to promote new album Voices

BACKSTAGE PASS
Mila Petkovic
london@metronews.ca

Sarah Barthel (vocals/keys) and Josh Carter (multi-instrumentals/production) of Phantogram. CONTRIBUTED

They are psychic twins.

That's how Josh Carter and Sarah Barthel of the street beat, psych pop duo Phantogram describe each other.

"We think a lot along the same lines. If one has an idea that one is not vibing on, it's easy to let go. We don't butt heads too much. It's really smooth," says multi-instrumentalist and producer Carter.

Friends for more than 18 years, the pair met in junior high school, coming from the same neighbourhood in upstate New York. The band released Eyelid Movies in 2009 and are now on tour with their new album Voices, recorded in Los Angeles with M.I.A./Santigold producer John Hill.

The band will hit the London Music Hall (185 Queens Ave.) on Sunday.

They've been lighting up festivals around North America, including Coachella, touring with the likes of Beach House, Caribou and The xx, and collaborating with Big Boi (OutKast) and the Flaming Lips.

Voices' single Fall in Love came out of a hip-hop beat Carter made about six years ago. Barthel (vocals/keys) dug it out and wrote a vocal melody to it. "It's an example of something old that was almost forgotten and we breathed new life into," says Carter.

The video for the song is visually striking, with projections of geometric patterns floating and flickering over the artists as they perform.

"I see a lot of shapes and colours when I work on music. Audio and visual go very hand-in-hand for me," says Carter. "Almost all of our songs are derived from a visual, or basically an imaginary scenario that we kind of come up with together.

"We talk about what the music reminds us of and we write what we see."

Bill Murray, one of the songs off the new album, earned its name from one of these visual jaunts. "It reminded us of a scene in Rushmore where Bill Murray jumps off the diving board and just sits on the bottom of the pool," says Carter.

His dreams also serve as inspiration for creation.

"I keep a tape recorder next to my bed so I can make voice memos of my dreams. I had this dream a while ago where I was on a train being chased and flew out of the door of the speeding train like superman, soaring above the trees," he says. "That inspired Make a Fist … sometimes I get one-liners that I will incorporate lyrically."

My Only Friend, the last song on the album, is one of Carter's favourites.

"I just think it's really unique and has multiple parts to it, a cool drum pattern. It's desperate and gut-wrenching, personal things going on in both our lives."

On writing

"Even if it's 30 seconds I try to write every day. It's just something that I feel this urge to do. I don't feel quite satisfied if I'm not writing."

Josh Carter, musician

Around town

- **Capture it:** The London Ontario Media Arts Association will hold its Field Recording for the Novice workshop at Museum London on Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Cost is $40 for non-members.
- **Tunes:** Synth and experimental dream pop artists Halcyon, Gavin Noir, Oubliette and Wormwood (with a DJ by Chuck Blazevic) will be playing the APK (347 Clarence St.) on Wednesday. Admission is $5.

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Is Annie Clark afraid of the dark?

Annie Clark spends a lot of time acting against herself in the aptly named film Solo. CONTRIBUTED

Solo. Toronto actress takes her first leading role in a freaky twist on the summer camp horror genre

ADAM NAYMAN
scene@metronews.ca

"I'm a city girl," says Annie Clark, and she plays one in Solo, a low-budget but high-efficiency Canadian horror movie about a young woman stranded on an island somewhere in the wilds of Ontario.

Clark's character, a troubled teenager named Gillian, is reluctantly taking part in an initiation exercise where new camp counselors have to spend two nights roughing it in the wilderness; as the film goes on, it becomes increasingly clear that she's far from alone. "I was actually going to become a camp counselor," says the 21-year-old Toronto native.

"But when I got to the point where I really had to do a solo, I was terrified. I quit camp before I had to do it, but (with this movie) I had to sort of do it anyway."

As its title suggests, Solo is a pretty focused showcase for its leading lady, who spends a lot of her screen time acting in a vacuum. To say more about the other characters would be a spoiler, but there aren't very many of them.

"When I first started reading it, I thought Gillian was going to die in the first few minutes," laughs Clark, who is branching into feature film work after a stint on Degrassi: The Next Generation.

"I didn't know what kind of horror movie it was going be. I'd read plenty of head-cheerleader parts with shower murder scenes, and I don't really like that."

Clark is still a relative newcomer, but she's already familiar enough with the business to know that it's important for a young actress to make discerning choices when it comes to roles.

"I want to do things I feel strongly about rather than just taking what I can get." She says that she's tried to keep from getting pigeonholed after Degrassi, but also that the show was a great initiation into the industry.

Quoted

"I did my own stunts. I had bruises all over the place, but I was proud of them."
Annie Clark

"It opened up a lot doors for me. It was like four years of non-stop learning. I feel like I could have gotten a degree from that: a degree in Degrassi."

Solo is a small movie, but with its stripped-down premise and skillfully engineered scares, it's the sort of indie that's bound to travel: Clark says a friend in Costa Rica sent her a photo of a bootlegged DVD.

And despite her earlier aversion to intense camping experiences, she says that shooting the movie in Muskoka was a down-and-dirty blast.

"I did my own stunts," she reports of the shoot, which also required the crew to improvise bathing routines in the absence of showers on the off-the-grid campsite. "I had bruises all over the place, but I was proud of them."

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This Week		Weeks on List
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4.	DEADLINE Sandra Brown	5
5.	THE DEMONOLOGIST Andrew Pyper	7
6.	LIFE AFTER LIFE Kate Atkinson	8
7.	MY JOURNEY Olivia Chow	6
8.	PRIVATE L.A. James Patterson	3
9.	THE DEAD IN THEIR VAULTED ARCHES Alan Bradley	7
10.	THE TRIPLE PACKAGE Amy Chua	4
★ 11.	THE MUSEUM OF EXTRAORDINARY THINGS Alice Hoffman	1
12.	THE AWESOME GUIDE TO LIFE Jason Ellis	2
13.	CONFESSIONS OF A WILD CHILD Jackie Collins	4
14.	ALL JOY AND NO FUN Jennifer Senior	5
15.	THE MOMSHIFT Reva Seth	3
16.	THE POUND A DAY DIET Rocco Dispirito	8
17.	THE START HERE DIET Tosca Reno	8
★ 18.	THE FUTURE OF THE MIND Michio Kaku	1
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Odd movies out rise to Oscar bait

Hollywood irony. It's not blockbusters but film rarities vying for Tinseltown gold

This year's Academy Awards nominees reflect a Hollywood truism: The margin between the dust bin and the Oscar red carpet is often razor thin.

The development process of any film can be lengthy and arduous, full of challenges in obtaining financing or a studio executive's stamp of approval. The biggest obstacle on the road to the Academy Awards is, for many films, simply getting a green light.

That's especially true nowadays, when studios have pulled back on their output and turned their focus almost exclusively to blockbusters. It makes for an annual Oscar irony: When Hollywood gathers to celebrate itself at the Academy Awards, it fetes not its standard business, but its oddities, its rarities, its freaks that somehow managed to squeeze through the cracks.

The Wolf of Wall Street, for example, might seem like a no-brainer: Martin Scorsese, Leonardo DiCaprio, loads of sex and drugs. But even The Wolf, nominated for five Oscars including best picture, came very close to never getting made. After developing the film, Warner Bros. dropped it in 2008. Scorsese would later lament having "wasted about five months of my life" waiting for the Warner Bros.' OK that never came.

It wasn't until years later (and after other directors were considered) that the project came together, with independent film company Red Granite Pictures financing the film's $100 million budget, and Paramount Pictures distributing.

The bet paid off not only in accolades, but at the box office. The Wolf of Wall Street has made more than $335 million worldwide.

The case of Dallas Buyers Club (six nominations, including best picture) is even more remarkable. A film that's now counted among the nine best of the year by the Academy took nearly two decades to get made. Co-producer and co-screenwriter Craig Borten first sold the script in 1996 after meeting and interviewing Ron Woodroof, a Texan who combated AIDS with drugs smuggled from other countries.

At one time, Woody Harrelson was attached to star with Dennis Hopper directing. Later, after the script was sold to Universal Pictures, Brad Pitt was lined up to play Woodroof, with Marc Forster directing. Another iteration brought in Ryan Gosling and director Craig Gillespie.

It was only revived with Matthew McConaughey (the best actor front-runner) and director Jean-Marc Vallée after the rights to the screenplay went dormant and Borten and co-producer Melisa Wallack were able to buy them back. And still, just weeks before filming began, investors pulled their money. The breach was filled partly because McConaughey gave it an air of inevitability. He had already begun losing weight for the role and discussed it on TV talk shows.

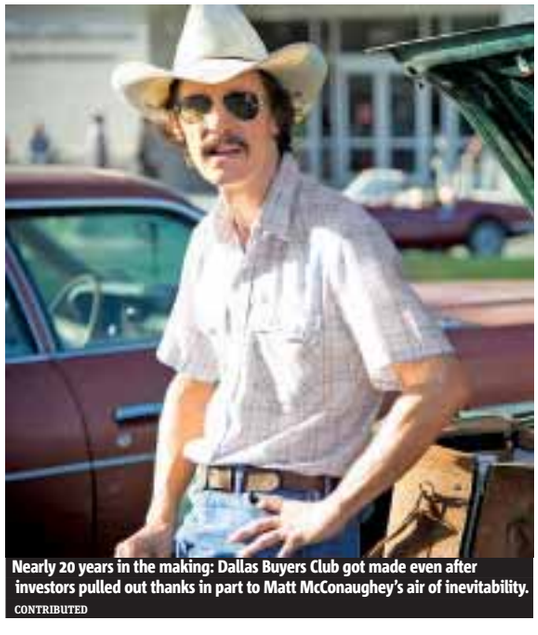
Made for just $5 million and shot in 25 days, Dallas Buyers Club finally got made, long after AIDS dwindled from the headlines. Specialty division Focus Features acquired the film, which has made $30.5 million worldwide.

Several of the nominees have relied on a single person to change their fate. When 12 Years a Slave director Steve McQueen accepted the Golden Globe award for best drama, he thanked producer Brad Pitt: "Without you, this film would have never got made."

Similar kudos have gone to the young producer Megan Ellison, whose Annapurna Pictures bankrolled two best-picture nominees: David O. Russell's American Hustle (jointly with Sony Pictures) and Spike Jonze's Her (released by Warner Bros.). THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Angling for the big one

- "The eight, 10, 12 good English-language films are all released in the last quarter of the year and expected to gird for battle for Oscars and Golden Globes and all that stuff," says Payne.
- "And they're just movies. They may be fragile movies, human movies. They just need to find an audience on their own without having comparative judgment made along with it."



Nearly 20 years in the making: Dallas Buyers Club got made even after investors pulled out thanks in part to Matt McConaughey's air of inevitability. CONTRIBUTED

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4 Big Brother house guests

If you thought contestants on the first season of Big Brother Canada brought the drama, get ready for drama on crack in Season 2. We asked four of them to reveal what Canadians can expect when the show premieres March 5 at 9 p.m. ET on Slice.

MAE BOWRING
for Metro Canada

Neda Kalantar, 22, Vancouver

Which past contestants are you most like?
Peter (Brown) in the way he played the game. It didn't work out for him in the end because he made a few mistakes, but I like the fact that he made a really strong alliance with Alec (Beall). I also like how Gary (Levy) had fun in the game. He didn't take anything too seriously.

Are you worried about what your parents may see and think?
I don't think so. I'm really close with my mom and she knows pretty much everything about me so I'm not too scared of that. She'll just shake her head at me. Hopefully I'm not going to do anything too embarrassing.

What will you do with the money if you win?
I would love to pay off my debts and my mom's debt. It would be awesome to have a down payment for a house.

What's your most unlikeable character trait?
My bluntness. I love that about myself but I know it's something that could get me in a lot of trouble. My filter is a little broken. I tend to over think every scenario.

Arlie Shaban, 25, Stouffville, Ont.

What's your strategy?
All of the past players say you can't plan too far ahead. I'm going to go in there and be the guy that everyone likes. I'm going to be funny, tell some stories, cook some great meals and do the cleaning. I want people to want to keep me around.

I can tell you're confident about your chances
Strategically, I'll be running the show. I think I'll get everyone to do exactly what I want them to do in a way that they don't know that I'm the one in charge.

Rachelle Diamond, 20, Edmonton

What were you doing before the show?
I'm in my third year of psychology at the University of Alberta. I hope to get my PhD and become a marriage and family counsellor.

Use one word to describe yourself.
Loud. I tend to get loud when in a group because I'm trying to get my point across. I'm expressive and always say what's on my mind.

What character trait might get you into trouble on the show?
I'm not very good at listening to people. I interrupt people, but I don't mean to. That could be an issue because it's important for people to feel heard.

Which past contestants do you identify with the most?
I'm a mix between Jillian (MacLaughlin) and Talla (Rejaei). Jillian's calm and collected and Talla's crazy. I'm in the middle.

Kyle Shore, 24, Porters Lake, Nova Scotia

How did you react when you found out you were selected?
For once in my life I was speechless. It's like if you're with a girl and her dad walks in and you just freeze like a deer in headlights. That was the feeling.

What's the one word you'd use to describe yourself.
Outgoing, because I love to party. I have to be social and in the scene. I'll try anything once.

What do you do back home?
Personal trainer. I'm waiting to get into either policing or the military. I can't be a desk jockey. I've got to keep moving.

You're outspoken. Are you worried about offending people?
I've done university speeches where I've had to watch my slang and s— like that.

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Mayim Bialik still boosting breastfeeding

Mayim Bialik may be done nursing her two sons, but she's still more than happy to defend the practice of breastfeeding in public. "I think anywhere you give a bottle, you breastfeed. I would try and be absolutely respectful and conscious of the community I was in, but I don't believe you need to cover up a baby eating anymore than you need to cover up a baby drinking a bottle," the Big Bang Theory star tells the Huffington Post.

Mayim Bialik

Katy Perry and John Mayer ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

They're in, then they're out

So much for the engagement rumours. Katy Perry and John Mayer have reportedly split up once again, according to Radar Online.

The couple's second go at romance — after an earlier breakup — seemed to be going well, with each being very forthcoming in interviews about their feelings for each other. They even duetted on Mayer's Who You Love, and Perry was spotted recently with a diamond on her finger than many thought signalled impending marriage. But it was reportedly Perry herself who initiated the split.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Lawrence looks at year-long vacation

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News in New York

Have we loved Jennifer Lawrence so hard that we broke her?

Despite — or because of — our affection, the world's most adored actress is planning to take a lengthy hiatus from acting, according to Harvey Weinstein. "She's going to have a long break for a year where she won't do anything. It's been non-stop for her and she deserves a rest," Weinstein, who produced Silver Linings Playbook, told the U.K.'s The Sun.

Why does Jennifer need a rest from being a movie star? Apparently, carrying two major movie franchises while also starring in a steady stream of Oscar bait (not to mention being relentlessly charming in interviews) can wear on a person. "Jennifer is too nice and will do people favours and agrees to do a movie like American Hustle when she could have had a rest," Weinstein said. "She signed on to do Hunger Games when she was young and wouldn't have realized how much it would dominate her life. But she's a professional and always will be."

Well, OK. I guess she can take a break, as long as she comes back — and assigns a substitute to make fun of Sarah Jessica Parker's hats in her stead.

Twitter

@ElizabethHurley
Just joined a gym for the first time in 20 years. About to have a fitness assessment. Gulp.

@SarahKSilverman
My morals aren't the same as your morals

@AlbertBrooks
I hope Netflix never opens a restaurant

Robin Thicke

Robin in Thicke trouble with his fans

Robin Thicke may be breaking up with his fans along with wife Paula Patton. The Blurred Lines singer cancelled yet another show on his U.S. tour earlier this week, the third consecutive show to be scrapped. "Due to unforeseen circumstances, Robin Thicke will postpone his performance at Harrah's Cherokee," the North Carolina casino announced on its website. "This concert will be rescheduled and the new date announced as soon as possible." Thicke also bowed out of shows last week in Atlanta and Orlando, citing vocal problems. "I never want to let down my fans, but I have unfortunately lost my voice and cannot perform," said Thicke, who announced on Monday that he and Patton are separating. If this keeps up, the Boston University students who started a petition to cancel Thicke's March 4 concert there — on complaints of his "misogynist music" — might not have anything to worry about.

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Kloss is now in session: We want those moves like Karlie

She walks the walk...
And talks runway season, that trademark stride and her inner hopeless romantic

RICHARD PECKETT
Metro World News

Karlie Kloss rapidly became a runway mainstay after being discovered in 2005 at age 13. HANDOUT

Karlie's career is on pointe

"Ballet was the best training I could have had for a modeling career."
Karlie Kloss

Karlie Kloss is one of those rarefied models that women obsess over and men lust after. Now her stock is so high rumour has it the American-born model can only be booked for shows through special arrangement.

You've got the most confident walk in the business. Do you find being on the runway empowering?

I do. I really enjoy being on the runway. It's a very different part of my job compared to photo shoots. It's a performance similar to the ballet performances that I remember from growing up, so I enjoy runway shows because of that.

How did ballet prepare you for the modeling industry?

Ballet was the best training I could have had for a modeling career. It teaches movement, gracefulness and how to express emotion. Telling a story through movement is very important in a modeling career.

Valentine's Day has recently come and gone. Did you buy into it or are you a cynic?

Well I do like Valentine's Day. I like any excuse to show some warmth and love. I think that goes for not just your boyfriend or girlfriend but it's also an excuse to write a love note to your friends, your mom, anyone.

Are you a romantic?

I am. I am a romantic. Yeah, it's also a good holiday for good chocolate.

What's the cheesiest chat-up line you've received?

Hmm, cheesiest chat-up line: "Did it hurt? Did it hurt, angel, when you fell from heaven?" It's an automatic game over.

You're photographed in lingerie a great deal — a look that men's magazines like to perpetuate as real-life. Is this the case?

No, I'm into sweatpants and my boyfriend's T-shirt. I like to be totally boring and watch [American] football, there's no fancy lingerie. But on a special occasion it's always fun to get dressed up and that's why there's some good stuff here at Victoria's Secret.

Good plug.

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Kara Lane

Age: 23

Occupation: Front woman of angsty pop band

What she's wearing
Doc Martens, camo pants from Value Village, Cowichan sweater stolen from my friend's boyfriend and a head chain from Emidesh.

Her inspiration
Xena, the warrior princess.

THE KIT IS A MULTI-PLATFORM BEAUTY AND FASHION BRAND WHICH INCLUDES AN INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE AND DYNAMIC APP, A WEBSITE, KIT CHAT — AN E-NEWSLETTER PROGRAM — AND A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER SECTION TOO!

Trends Report

Retro fashion and beauty is seeing a revival this spring, inspiring the latest looks on both fashion runways and red carpets. Go online to Trends Report to see how you can get the look that singer Taylor Swift has mastered.

• **Online.** Follow Irene on Twitter at @MetroIreneK or Instagram: kuanirene; metronews.ca/voices/trends-report

Taylor Swift images from Getty Images

Nursery, I got hue, babe

Crib notes. Looking for non-traditional colours for your newborn's room? We've got you covered

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

I am expecting a baby and don't ascribe to the traditional colours for decorating a baby's room. I also don't know the sex of my unborn. What are neutral-gendered, on-trend colours for painting and decorating? — Nathalie Hicks, Toronto

More parents are opting for non-traditional baby rooms and decorating the space to please themselves as they spend time with their newborn. Once a child develops a preference for styles and colours, usually by age three, it's a good time to re-decorate to suit their personalities. Happily, many retailers carry colourful nursery decor that falls outside traditional schemes.

Here are a few designer tips to get you started:

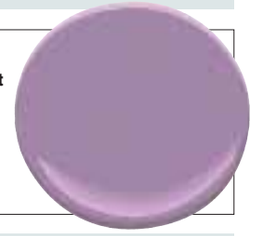
1. Match any wood tones of baby furniture to other wood tones you might already have throughout your home, such as dark espresso or bleached oak.

2. Consider using a grown-up area rug with fabulous colours and patterns instead of the predictable nursery story-printed rugs.

3. Never be afraid of using deep colours for a newborn's room. It's a space where you are training them to sleep, so the less stimulation the better.

Mix whimsy and colour for those early years. Canadian designed Duc Duc Crib offers a toddler bed conversion kit and a variety of fun words to apply. $1,634, modernkaribou.ca

A quirky orange kangaroo plush cushion becomes an instant best friend for baby. Its pocket makes a great spot for an extra soother. Machine washable. $10, simons.ca



Hazy Lilac 2116-40 paint creates a cozy room to complement dark or light wood tones and trendy shades of grey and orange. benjaminmoore.ca

Keep storage long and low so toys can be displayed at a comfy height, leaving room for shelves and hooks above. Bjursta Sideboard, $300, ikea.ca

A recycled rug is on trend and a perfect choice for a child's room. Ottoman Yama Patchwork 6x8, $475, ecarpetgallery.

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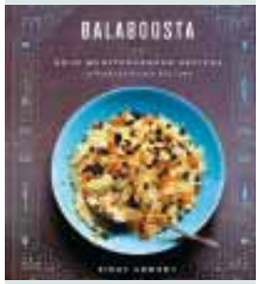
Flawlessly flavoured from the inside out

This recipe serves four. BOOK IMAGES, QUENTIN BACON

Cookbook of the Week

A mixture of cultures and tastes



As a mother, wife and chef who runs three busy New York City restaurants, Einat Admony knows about being a New Age "balaboosta" (Yiddish for "perfect housewife"). It makes sense then that her cookbook shares the same name.

Balaboosta offers 140 recipes that blend Admony's mixed Israeli heritage (Yemenite, Persian) with the Mediterranean palate she developed working in New York City.

Among the dishes in the book are: Spicy Chicken Tagine, Fenugreek Fried Bread, Yemenite Oxtail Soup and more. METRO

"This is the classic Mediterranean preparation for fish, without all the fancy filleting, searing, steaming, or curing," writes Einat Admony in her book Balaboosta: Bold Mediterranean Recipes to Feed the People You Love.

"The key is to layer the ingredients inside the fish, instead of on top, so that the flavour permeates every last ounce of the meat."

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F.

2. Pat the skin dry on the branzino with a few paper towels. Stuff the cavity of each fish with one sprig each of thyme and rosemary, one garlic clove, and two slices of lemon. Place the fish on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper and drizzle with olive oil.

3. Roast in the oven until cooked all the way through, about 30 minutes.

4. Meanwhile, make the yogurt dill sauce: Combine the yogurt, garlic, lemon juice, and salt in a blender. Puree until smooth, then very slowly add the olive oil in a thin stream. Scrape the yogurt mixture into a bowl and stir in the chopped dill. The sauce can be made ahead of time and kept in an airtight container in the refrigerator until ready to use.

5. Serve each fish with the yogurt dill sauce.

RECIPES EXCERPTED FROM BALABOOSTA BY EINAT ADMONY (ARTISAN BOOKS). COPYRIGHT (C) 2013.

Ingredients

- Four 1 1/4-lb whole branzino, gutted and cleaned
- 4 fresh thyme sprigs
- 4 fresh rosemary sprigs
- 4 garlic cloves
- 1 lemon, sliced into 8 rounds
- Olive oil

Yogurt Dill Sauce

- 3/4 cup non-fat yogurt
- 1 garlic clove, coarsely chopped
- 2 tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp kosher salt
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp finely chopped fresh dill

FLASH FOOD

From your fridge to your table in 30 minutes or less

This recipe serves six to eight people.

Side. Tangy Tabbouleh

1. Pour enough hot water over the bulgur just to cover it and soak for 10 minutes. The bulgur will absorb most of the water, and it should have a slight crunch when you bite into one of the grains.

2. Meanwhile, toss together the remaining ingredients in a very large bowl. Add the bulgur and mix thoroughly. Allow the salad to soak in all the wonderful tangy flavours for 30 minutes before serving.

Ingredients

- 1 cup medium bulgur
- 1 cup each fresh parsley and cilantro, finely chopped
- 4 scallions, finely chopped
- 1/4 cup fresh mint, finely chopped
- 1 cup tomatoes, diced
- Grated zest of 2 lemons
- 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
- 3 tbsp olive oil
- 2 tsp kosher salt
- Pinch of freshly ground black pepper

For your phone

Modernist Cuisine At Home: Lite Version (iPad, iPhone; free)

MIND THE APP
Kris Abel
@RealKrisAbel
life@metronews.ca

It's avant-garde cooking through science. Modernist Cuisine is normally a pricey $70 book, but this free three-course meal sampler will explain its concepts with slow-cooked chicken and pressure-cooked quinoa salad. Did I mention it's free?

Mims the word when it comes to talent

NBL Canada. Lightning elder statesman playing his best ball as playoffs approach

DAVE LANGFORD
dave.langford@metronews.ca

Elvin Mims, at 34, is the oldest member of the London Lightning. He is also one of their best players.

But do the young players on the Lightning listen to Mims when he speaks up?

"If they don't, they should," Lightning head coach Micheal Ray Richardson said quickly when that question was tossed his way. "Any time you have a veteran who has been around, who has won and who knows how to win, I think they should look up to him."

Mims played a lot this season and played well. He has appeared in all 39 games, averaging 11.7 points, 7.4 rebounds and 28.3 minutes.

He's played his best basketball in recent weeks, taking advantage of a nine-day layoff in late January and early February to "work on aspects" of his game.

He admitted the roller-coaster season has been difficult personally and for the Lightning, who have now lost 16 games with one regular-season game remaining.

"It was something new for us. I know it was something new for the organization, but from a personal standpoint it was something different for me as well," Mims said.

Head coach Micheal Ray Richardson on Lightning forward Elvin Mims, shown at right here: "A great defender, a great rebounder and very good mid-range jump shooter." METRO FILE

The road to a three-peat

The Lightning will finish in third place on the regular season and start their best-of-five conference semifinal Sunday in Brampton against the A's.

- "Our goal is (to) win 11 games. How many games it takes to win 11 games, it doesn't matter," Lightning head coach Micheal Ray Richardson said. "No matter what city we're in, we just have to win 11 games to win the championship."
- For the Lightning to three-peat, they will need to win the Brampton series and then win the conference and league finals, both best-of-seven affairs.

"I never went through a season like this since probably my rookie year (10 years ago). It was just trying to make sure individually that we were not pointing the fingers at the next person and try and figure out a solution."

Mims was a member of last year's championship team, but said this year's team is better.

"They both had their pros and cons. From a youth and athletic standpoint yes, but of course with youth you gain youth but you lose a bit of basketball IQ. I think last year (experience) helped us out a lot," Mims said.

Mims said he has not made up his mind whether this will be his last season or not.

"I don't know to be honest with you. I'll play as long as the Lord's willing," he said. "It's kind of hard to put a timeframe on it because one day you feel like I can't do it any more and the next day you feel like you could do it forever."

OHL

Knights put stamp on season series with Otters with a victory

The Ontario Hockey League six-game season series between the London Knights and Erie Otters came to an end Wednesday.

Too bad.

Hockey fans in both London and Erie could watch these type of games forever — and maybe drop a few snorefests against Sarnia Sting, for instance.

On this night, Erie scored three goals in a row, London then scored three and eventually the Knights, on captain Chris Tierney's late goal and empty-netter from Josh Anderson, emerged with a 5-3 victory, moving them one point ahead of the Otters and into third place all alone.

It ended the series with each team winning three times, two at home and one on the road. It was the eighth straight win for the Knights.

Andre Burakovsky, Spencer Abraham and Connor McDavid gave Erie a 3-0 lead in the first 13 minutes. Knights defenceman Dakota Mermis closed the gap to 3-1 before the period ended.

In the second, Michael McCarron and Matt Rupert scored in one minute, five seconds late and the score was tied going into the third. METRO

Hobbling hero. Price suffers lower-body injury

Montreal Canadiens star goaltender Carey Price left the team's morning skate Wednesday with what the club is calling a lower-body injury.

Coach Michel Therrien said Price aggravated the injury while representing Canada at the Sochi Olympics.

"He will not play the next two games and he's day-to-day," Therrien said.

The Canadiens hosted the Detroit Red Wings Wednesday night. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Carey Price
RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sense of accomplishment

"I think everybody feels a sense of pride, but also a sense of relief knowing you were able to do what everybody expected."

Sidney Crosby returned from Sochi, Russia, with his second Olympic gold medal, this one as the captain of the Canadian team. Crosby returns to normalcy in the NHL with the first-place Penguins, who face a stretch run that features 24 games in 46 days.

Wingin' it. Babcock shifts focus to getting Detroit back into post-season

Mike Babcock loved the Olympics, but now he has another tough task — trying to get the Detroit Red Wings into the NHL playoffs.

"It's about the Red Wings now — that's all over with," said the coach who led Canada to a second straight hockey gold medal at the Sochi Olympics. "We're in a real battle to get into the playoffs. We take real pride in the Red Wings being in the playoffs every year."

The Red Wings, clinging to the eighth and final Eastern Conference playoff spot, faced Montreal on Wednesday night. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"There's no excuses. We have to find way to get in." Mike Babcock

Red Sox are counting on Koji

Koji Uehara of the Boston Red Sox, left, celebrates with David Ross after defeating the St. Louis Cardinals in Game 6 of the World Series at Fenway Park on Oct. 30, 2013. ROB CARR/GETTY IMAGES

MLB. Despite celebrity status, World Series hero insists he's not resting on past laurels

He's written a book. He's endorsing a Japanese beer — "please try it." And he met Japan Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and U.S. Ambassador to Japan Caroline Kennedy.

And, oh, yes, he won a World Series title.

Without Koji Uehara's nearly lights-out performance last season as the Red Sox's fourth closer, the team's championship might not have happened.

Still, Uehara insists his life is the same as it was a year ago.

"Nothing has changed at all," he said through a translator.

If the same can be said about his performance this season, the Red Sox will be very happy.

Uehara joined the Red Sox last season as a free agent and was expected to be a part of the back end of the bullpen. But, he took over the closer's role after injuries to Joel Hanrahan and Andrew Bailey. Junichi Tazawa took a shot at closing but was ineffective.

Manager John Farrell made Uehara his closer on June 21, and from that point on the right-hander was nearly unhittable: He appeared in 41 games, saving 20 games in 22 opportunities. Uehara gave up three runs — two earned — on 14 hits, one home run, two walks and 59 strikeouts for 0.41 ERA and held opponents to an .097 average.

Overall, in 73 appearances, he went 4-1 with a 1.09 ERA and 21 saves. He set a club record with 37 consecutive batters retired from Aug. 17 to Sept. 13.

Can Uehara, who will turn 39 on April 3, repeat what he did last season? Is it even fair to ask?

"Totally fair," manager John Farrell said.

Uehara is entering his sixth season in the major leagues after a 10-season career in Japan. In five MLB seasons with the Orioles, Rangers, and Red Sox, he is 9-10 with a 2.42 ERA, 35 saves in 230 games (all but 12 in relief).

"Granted, his performance last year was outstanding," Farrell said. "The line that he put up, the time of the year, the game, the importance.... I keep going back to the years previous. This has been a very successful pitcher every year he's been here in the States."

Uehara is not concerned with his past success or production.

"It's all in the past," he said. "It's not productive, so I didn't really reflect on it."

But Uehara pitched an MLB career-high 88 innings, 51 more innings than with the Rangers in 2012, when a lat strain limited him to just 37 appearances.

The Red Sox will monitor his workload in spring training and into the season, but the right-hander won't be limited because of it. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Staying on target

"I don't care what people think. Every year is a challenge. I try to make that motivation to be better."

Boston reliever Koji Uehara explains why it's important not to dwell on the past

Around the majors

A look at some of Wednesday's top stories from MLB spring training

- **Blue Jays 4, Phillies 3.** Jose Bautista hit a long home run off Roberto Hernandez just three batters into the game in Wednesday's rain-shortened spring training opener for both teams. Bautista's drive landed outside of the ballpark at Bright House Field. Toronto's R.A. Dickey faces the Phillies Cliff Lee in Thursday's rematch.
- **Strasburg on hold.** The Washington ace says he is healthy and ready to go but the Nationals aren't rushing him back into action. Strasburg isn't scheduled to pitch in the Nationals' first two exhibition games but will do a bullpen session on Saturday.
- **Reeling in Trout.** The Angels re-signed outfielder Mike Trout to a one-year, $1 million US contract on Wednesday. Trout becomes eligible for arbitration after this season and the sides are discussing a deal which would keep him in L.A. through 2020.
- **Bumps and bruises.** Angels outfielder Josh Hamilton will be sidelined two weeks because of a strained calf muscle while pitcher C.J. Wilson does not appear to be hurt after taking a line drive of the head in batting practice on Tuesday.

Ames shoots his way into Canadian golf hall

Stephen Ames. GETTY IMAGES

Calgary's Stephen Ames is the newest member of the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame.

The 49-year-old was unanimously named for induction Wednesday and will become the 74th member of Canada's golf shrine.

Ames, a dual citizen of Canada and Trinidad and Tobago, has recorded four career PGA Tour wins and has earned over $19.5 million US during his career.

This year, Ames plans to play events both on the PGA Tour as well as the Champions Tour.

A career milestone came in '06 when the Calgary resident won the The Players Championship by six strokes over Retief Goosen. The victory moved Ames into the No. 27 spot in the official world golf rankings at the time.

Last year, the Stephen Ames Foundation funded the inaugural CJGA Stephen Ames Junior Cup.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Auto Racing

Villeneuve set to make his return

Jacques Villeneuve is ready to make an IndyCar comeback.

Schmidt Peterson Motorsports said Wednesday it has hired Villeneuve to race in this year's Indianapolis 500, 19 years after the Canadian driver first drank the milk in Victory Lane.

Schmidt and co-owner Rick Peterson, also from Canada, made a serious offer he couldn't refuse. The Indy 500 is scheduled for May 25. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA. New mask has Heat star LeBron in a 'hot fog'

LeBron James says his new protective mask is hot, uncomfortable and prone to fogging up. Plus, as teammate Dwyane Wade pointed out, it looks weird.

So James is in the market for design suggestions.

"I've been talking to Marvel Comics for the last couple of days, and DC Comics, to try to come up with one of the greatest masks of all time," James said with a chuckle Wednesday. "So we'll see what happens."

James spoke after trying out his new mask for the first time in practice. He plans to use it Thursday when the Miami Heat play the New York Knicks. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The nose knows

"You can still feel it, because the nose is still tender. But it definitely lessens the pain."

LeBron James of the Heat explains the comfort level of his new protective mask.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
It won't be long before your mind is back in the groove. You will have a lot to say for yourself today but be very careful that you don't give away secrets to people who may be your rivals.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
According to the planets, you could make serious money but you need to get serious about your ambitions. Most of all, you need to commit yourself to an objective that may take years to reach. Are you ready?

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You will be challenged over the next few days, but you will rise to the challenge and come out unscathed. Remember: rivals are more scared of you than you need be of them.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You will need to close your ears to criticism today. It does not matter how good a job you do, someone, somewhere, will pick holes in your methods or techniques. Ignore them and carry on as before.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Be careful what you ask for over the next two or three days because you are likely to get it. Why should that be a problem? Because the responsibilities that go with it could take away a lot of the fun.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will be more emotional than usual today. But that could actually work in your favour, especially if you have not been too open about your feelings of late. Every now and then it's good to let it all out.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Do something unexpected. The planets indicate that no matter how far you push the limits, at home or at work, others will forgive you. But that's only today. Tomorrow they won't be so generous.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Keep your eye on the ball and keep your mind on what it is you are hoping to accomplish. If you can do that then you will succeed. The approaching new moon will give you added drive and dynamism.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You don't have to rely on other people. You have high hopes for the future and will make quicker progress if don't have to worry about dragging others along behind you.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
For the past two or three weeks you have found it hard to get your thoughts together, which means progress has been slow. Now, your mind will click into gear and you will soon be sailing along.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You don't take risks often but when you do, you go all the way. With that in mind, you are advised to wait until the weekend to follow up on what you are planning. If you start too early you could lose it all.

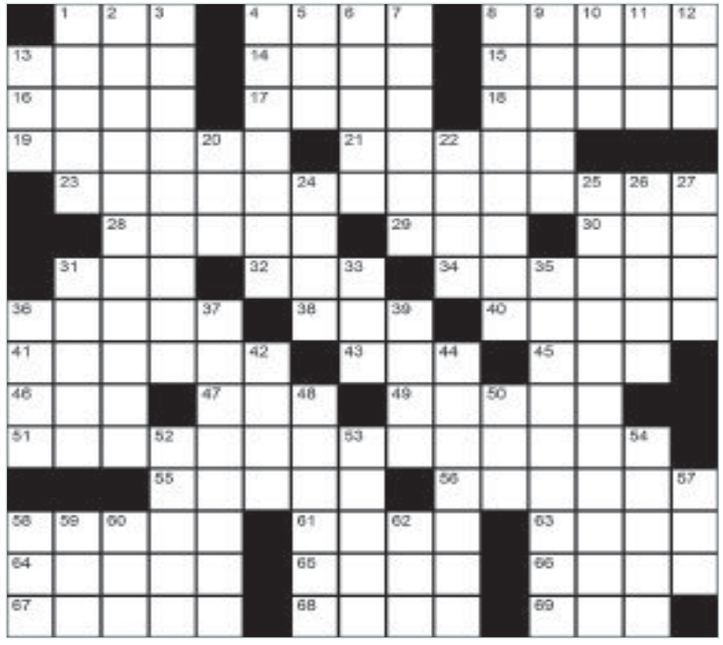
♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Be assertive and let partners and colleagues know that you intend to put your needs first. This is your time of year and you have every right and every reason to be a little bit selfish.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



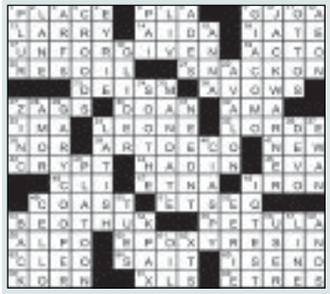
Across

1. Possibilities
4. Frost
8. Ancient water nymph
13. Take _ __ (Try the drink)
14. Vogue rival
15. __ boots
16. Saintly symbol
17. Marsh plant
18. Solemn bell sound
19. "You are not!" retort: 3 wds.
21. Farewell, in France
23. Step dancers perform to their music: 2 wds.
28. '70s music
29. Classic game
30. Ms. Long
31. Like
32. Exhaust
34. Fort __ (Where the American Civil War started in 1861)
36. Roman Empire invaders
38. Beige
40. Sans stopping...: 2 wds.
41. Singer Bonnie's surnamesakes
43. Drivers' org.
45. Actor Mr. Knight's
46. Admiral's org. in The States
47. Juice: French
49. 1985 Power Station hit: "Some Like __ __"
51. "The best man in Ottawa...": Lumberjack in the Stompin' Tom Connors song: 3 wds.
55. Flower sort
56. More sore
58. 1998 Edwin McCain song: 2 wds.
61. In __ of flowers
63. Alfonso XIII's queen's namesakes
64. Sitting spot
65. High
66. Prefix with 'dynamic'
67. "All in the Family" role
68. Opportunity
69. Juiceless

Down

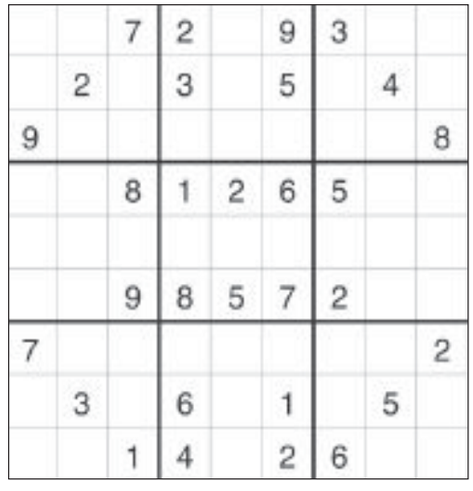
1. Oscar-winning songwriter Mr. Hayes
2. Oscars category: 2 wds.
3. It will shine on Ellen DeGeneres as this year's Oscars host
4. Brave acts
5. Corrida call
6. Shake like _ __
7. Social news website
8. Leslie Nielsen movie franchise: 2 wds.
9. Cancel
10. White House nickname
11. __ clear
12. Rocker Mr. Shannon
13. Sushi tuna
20. Periods beyond regular hrs.
22. Some apples
24. Outdoors garment
25. "The __": Piano tune in "The Sting" (1973)
26. 'Nothings' in Nice
27. Chalcedony variety
31. "__ __ _ say, not..."
33. BC's ocean
35. "Ace of Spades" British metal band
36. Food
37. Gospels guy, __. __
39. Newbie
42. Tallow source
44. In the wrong: 2 wds.
48. Silver fishies
50. "__ Ramsey" ('70s TV Western)
52. Frilly neckwear piece like Austin Powers wears
53. "Easy Livin'" by __ Heep
54. Beat
57. Record label The Bee Gees were on
58. 'Expert' suffix
59. 19 TV __. (Production co. for "American Idol")
60. Law: French
62. "Turn to Stone" gr.

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



Yesterday's Sudoku

7	2	9	1	3	5	6	8	4
1	3	5	8	4	6	2	9	7
4	8	6	2	9	7	3	5	1
8	4	7	3	5	2	1	6	9
3	5	1	9	6	8	7	4	2
6	9	2	4	7	1	8	3	5
9	1	3	7	8	4	5	2	6
2	6	8	5	1	9	4	7	3
5	7	4	6	2	3	9	1	8

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Automobile Journalists Association of Canada

Sorento SX shown△

THE NEW 2014 SORENTO

hwy / city 100km^ 7.1L/10.4L

THROWBACK PRICING

WAS $159

$124≠ BI-WEEKLY for the first 15 MONTHS.

6-SPEED AUTOMATIC

0%≠ financing

Includes Variable Throwback Pricing Incentive. $124 bi-weekly payments include $1,120 Throwback Pricing incentive. Payments are based on 2014 Sorento 2.4 LX AT FWD (SR75BE). 60-month financing amortized over 84 months. After 15 months, bi-weekly payments increase to $159. Principal balance of $8,255 due after 60 months. Throwback Pricing incentive may be taken as a lump sum or to reduce financed amount.~

Sportage SX Luxury shown△

THE NEW 2014 SPORTAGE

hwy / city 100km^ 7.0L/10.0L

THROWBACK PRICING

WAS $146

$99≠ BI-WEEKLY for the first 15 MONTHS.

1.49%≠ financing

Includes Variable Throwback Pricing Incentive. $99 bi-weekly payments include $1,504 Throwback Pricing incentive. Payments are based on 2014 Sportage LX MT FWD (SP551E), financing for 84 months. After 15 months, bi-weekly payments increase to $146. Throwback Pricing incentive may be taken as a lump sum or to reduce financed amount.~

reddot design award winner 2013

Rondo EX Luxury shown△

THE ALL-NEW 2014 RONDO

hwy / city 100km^ 6.2L/9.4L

THROWBACK PRICING

WAS $128

$88≠ BI-WEEKLY for the first 15 MONTHS.

0%≠ financing

Includes Variable Throwback Pricing Incentive. $88 bi-weekly payments include $1,280 Throwback Pricing incentive. Payments are based on 2014 Rondo LX MT (RN551E), financing for 84 months. Offer includes $750 loan credit‡. After 15 months, bi-weekly payments increase to $128. Throwback Pricing incentive may be taken as a lump sum or to reduce financed amount.~

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